SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification as follows.

Replace the paragraph beginning on page 7, line 4 with the following:

In other instances, operations are inefficient. For example, in step 2, although the system bus arbiter 394 selects DDMA block #0, the external bus arbiter 396 attempts to select the GDMA channel #2. In this case the GDMA channel #2 actually takes control of the external bus 315, since the functional block selected by the external bus arbiter 396 has a priority over that selected by the system bus arbiter 394. In this case, since the DDMA block #0 has ownership of the system bus 210, while the GDMA channel #2 has ownership of the external bus 315, the DDMA block #0 simply cannot complete its operation in the step 2. As also shown in steps 4 and 8, there are functional blocks that do not complete their operation properly during their allocated step, due to the absence of ownership of the external bus 315. When they do not, they have to wait for another step, while the external bus 315 is being used by another functional block that has ownership of the external bus 315 granted by the external bus arbiter 396.

RESPONSE TO
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